

What is claimed is:

1. A test strip assembly, comprising:

a support member defining an aperture to receive a bodily fluid sample;

5 a cover member;

a test strip compressed between said support member and said cover member to form an embossed pillow within said aperture, said embossed pillow being adapted to absorb the bodily fluid sample; and

10 wherein said test strip has an incision surrounding said embossed pillow to minimize leakage of the bodily fluid sample from said embossed pillow.

2. The test strip assembly of claim 1, wherein said support member has a blade member surrounding said aperture to form said incision in said test strip.

15 3. The test strip assembly of claim 1, wherein:

said support member includes a capillary tube to collect the bodily fluid sample; and said aperture includes a microtitration pocket defined in said support member.

4. The test strip assembly of claim 1, wherein said test strip includes:

20 a wicking layer adapted to absorb the bodily fluid sample;

a test matrix for reacting with the bodily fluid sample; and

wherein said incision is formed in said wicking layer.

5. The test strip assembly of claim 4, wherein said incision is further formed

25 through said wicking layer and said test matrix.

6. The test strip assembly of claim 4, wherein said test strip includes a top layer positioned between said top member and said test matrix.

7. A test strip assembly, comprising:

30 a wicking layer to collect a bodily fluid sample; and

a support member defining an opening, said support member having a blade member extending around said opening and contacting said wicking layer to minimize flow of the fluid sample in said wicking layer from said opening.

5 8. The test strip assembly of claim 7, wherein:
 said wicking layer defines an incision that coincides with said opening to minimize
flow of the fluid sample in said wicking layer from said opening; and
 said blade member is adapted to cut said incision in said wicking layer.

10 9. The test strip assembly of claim 7, wherein said blade member compresses
said wicking layer to minimize flow of the fluid sample in said wicking layer from said
opening.

15 10. The test strip assembly of claim 7, further comprising a capillary tube provided
over said wicking layer to deliver the bodily fluid sample to said wicking layer.

 11. The test strip assembly of claim 7, further comprising:
 a top layer; and
 a test matrix positioned between said top layer and said wicking layer for analyzing
20 the bodily fluid sample.

 12. The test strip assembly of claim 7, wherein said wicking layer has a
microtitration pillow surrounded by said blade member.

25 13. A test strip, comprising:
 a test matrix to test a bodily fluid sample; and
 a wicking layer provided over said test matrix, said wicking layer having an embossed
pillow for absorbing the bodily fluid sample, said wicking layer having an incision
surrounding said embossed pillow to minimize leakage of the bodily fluid sample from said
30 embossed pillow.

14. The test strip of claim 13, further comprising a top layer covering said test matrix.

15. The test strip of claim 13, wherein said incision has a circular shape.

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16. The test strip of claim 13, wherein said incision is continuous.